



## ***THIS WEEK IN TEXAS HISTORY***

**December 2012 – Week 1**

**Air Date: December 2 – December 8 (Sunday – Saturday)**

### **TITLE: LIGHT OF THE WHISKEY GHOST**

DECEMBER 1832 AND A GHOSTLY LEGEND BEGINS.

THIS WEEK IN TEXAS HISTORY, BROUGHT TO YOU BY THIS STATION AND THE SAVE TEXAS HISTORY PROGRAM OF THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE.

DECEMBER 6, 1832. BAILEY'S PRAIRIE NEAR ANGLETON. JAMES BRITON BAILEY, THE TOWN'S NAMESAKE, IS DYING. BORN UP NORTH, BRIT BAILEY CAME TO TEXAS WITH AUSTIN'S OLD THREE HUNDRED. HE SHOULD BE WELL-RESPECTED – BUT HE'S NOT.

ECCENTRIC, ORNERY, AND JUST PLAIN MEAN, BAILEY ONCE PULLED A GUN ON A PREACHER. SO NO MAN WOULD EVER LOOK DOWN ON HIM, HE DEMANDS TO BE BURIED STANDING UP, FACING WEST, HIS RIFLE AND WHISKEY JUG AT HIS SIDE.

TODAY, OLD BRIT SUCCUMBS TO CHOLERA. HE'S BURIED AS ORDERED, BUT HIS WIFE AND THE PREACHER LEAVE OUT THE JUG.

TO THIS DAY, LOCALS CLAIM A GHOSTLY BALL OF LIGHT SEEN FLOATING OVER THE PRAIRIE IS OLD BRIT LOOKING FOR HIS WHISKEY.

THE LEGEND OF BAILEY'S LIGHT BEGAN 180 YEARS AGO, THIS WEEK IN TEXAS HISTORY.

LEARN MORE AT [SAVETEXASHISTORY.ORG](http://SAVETEXASHISTORY.ORG) OR CALL 800-998-4GLO.

---

Merle Weir, "BAILEY, JAMES BRITON," *Handbook of Texas Online*

(<http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/fba08>), accessed November 22, 2012. Published by the Texas State Historical Association.

"Bailey's Prairie, Texas," *Wikipedia* ([http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bailey%27s\\_Prairie,\\_Texas](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bailey%27s_Prairie,_Texas)), accessed November 22, 2012.

Catherine Munson Foster, "Ghosts Along the Brazos," *Texian Press*, 1977,

([http://books.google.com/books/about/Ghosts\\_Along\\_the\\_Brazos.html?id=Hg1GAAACAAJ](http://books.google.com/books/about/Ghosts_Along_the_Brazos.html?id=Hg1GAAACAAJ)) accessed November 22, 2012.

TEXAS GENERAL LAND OFFICE

Save Texas History Program

1-800-998-4GLO | [www.savetexashistory.org](http://www.savetexashistory.org) | [www.thisweekintexashistory.org](http://www.thisweekintexashistory.org)

Texas General Land Office | Communications Division | 512-475-1685